

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In Re Application:	ANTHONY MICHAEL HEAGERTY	Examiner:	Unassigned
Serial No.	Unassigned	Group Art Unit:	Unassigned
Filing Date:	Herewith	Attorney Docket No.	078986/0207
Title:	METHOD OF DIAGNOSIS		

CERTIFICATE UNDER 37 CFR 1.8: I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231, on January 8, 2002

Richard S. Ruggiero
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PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Commissioner for Patents
Washington, DC 20231

Dear Sir:

Prior to the first Office Action, please amend the above-identified application as follows:

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please cancel original claims 1-16 without prejudice and add new claims 17-31, as follows:

17. (New) A method for diagnosing or detecting a predisposition to cardiac hypertrophy comprising assaying a sample of human bodily fluid *in vitro* for the level of cardiotrophin-1 (CT-1) contained in the sample and wherein elevated CT-1 levels are indicative of cardiac hypertrophy.

18. (New) A method according to claim 17 in which diagnosis or detection of a predisposition to cardiac hypertrophy is determined by comparison of basal CT-1 levels from a human bodily fluid sample from a subject unaffected by cardiac hypertrophy and the level of CT-1 in a human bodily fluid sample of a subject under test.

19. (New) A method according to claim 17 in which diagnosis or detection of a predisposition to cardiac hypertrophy is determined by comparison of basal CT-1 levels from a human bodily fluid sample previously taken from a subject under test and the level of CT-1 in a human bodily fluid sample of same subject under test.